

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 04629 211146 Z

20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

DPW-01 OMB-01 GAC-01 /082 W
----- 109546

R 210805 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8952

USDEL FRANCE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 4629

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT VS

SUBJECT: GVN MAKES SPECIAL COLLECTION IN CHUONG THIEN

FOL TEL FROM CAN THO SENT ACTION SAIGON DATED MAR 19, 1973 RPTD
FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAN THO 0063

E. O. 11652: ADS, DECLAS 3-19-75

TAGS: PINT, VS

SUBJECT: GVN MAKES SPECIAL COLLECTION IN CHUONG THIEN

1. VICE CONSUL LACY WRIGHT REPORTS EVIDENCE OF A LARGE COLLECTION
OF FUNDS BY GVN OFFICIALS IS TAKING PLACE IN CHUONG THIEN
PROVINCE. AMERICANS IN CHUONG THIEN ESTIMATE THAT 10-12 M\$ HAVE
LEFT THE PROVINCE RECENTLY FOR CAN THO AND SAIGON. THE MONEY
REPORTEDLY IS BEING COLLECTED FROM KEY OFFICIALS AND LARGE
BUSINESSMEN. RELIABLE VIETNAMESE SOURCES IN VI THANH SAY THE
SAME THING IS HAPPENING IN ALL THE OTHER DELTA PROVINCES. ONE
SOURCE SAID WEALTHY BUSINESSMEN WERE ASSESSED 500,000\$ EACH.
2. THE STORY FITS IN WITH ATTEMPTS BY PROVINCE OFFICIALS IN
CHUONG THIEN OVER RECENT WEEKS TO STEAL MORE MONEY THAN USUAL
FROM GOVERNMENT SOCIAL WELFARE PROGRAMS, PRESUMABLY TO MEET
THEIR QUOTAS. THE SAME SOURCES SAY THAT THE OVERALL GOAL IN
MR 4 IS 160 M\$, 100 M\$ OF WHICH IS TO GO TO THIEU,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 04629 211146 Z

THE REST TO BE KEPT BY MG NGHI, MRR COMMANDING GENERAL. ONE COMMON EXPLANATION HAS IT THAT THE MONEY WILL BE USED TO FINANCE THE DEMOCRACY PARTY.

3. COMMENT. WE HAVE RECEIVED REPORTS FROM SEVERAL PROVINCES THAT GVN CORRUPTION HAS INCREASED IN THE DELTA SINCE THE CEASEFIRE. A VARIATION ON THE EXPLANATION GIVEN ABOVE FOR A RISE IN THE SIPHONING OFF OF GOVERNMENT MONIES BY PROVINCE OFFICIALS IS THAT MG NGHI NEEDS 160 M\$ TO PURCHASE A POSITION ON THE JGS. THAT THE MOST DETAILED REPORTS ON CORRUPTION SHOULD COME FROM CHUONG THIEN IS NOT SURPRISING. CORRUPTION IS MOST VISIBLE IN PRECISELY THOSE AREAS WHERE THE GVN'S APPARATUS IS MOST THREATENED. WE DO NOT KNOW HOW MUCH STOCK TO PUT IN THE REASONS CITED FOR VRN COLLECTIONS, BUT WRIGHT'S REPORT IS SIGNIFICANT IN THAT IT IS THE FIRST TO LINK WIDESPREAD, LARGE- SCALE CORRUPTION TO THE FINANCING OF THE DEMOCRACY PARTY RATHER THAN TO THE FURTHERANCE OF MG NGHI'S CAREER OR BANK ACCOUNT.

WISNER
UNQUOTE
BUNKER

CONFIDENTIAL

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SAIGON04629
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730335/aaaaidzk.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05-Dec-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <28-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 971219
Subject: GVN MAKES SPECIAL COLLECTION IN CHUONG THIEN
TAGS: PINT, VS
To: EA
FRANCE
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005